

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 26, 2004. Claims 9 to 12, 15, 16, 25 to 28, 31 to 33 and 35 are pending in the application, with Claims 8, 13, 14, 24, 29, 30 and 34, having been canceled and new Claim 35 having been added. Claims 15, 31 and 35 are the independent claims herein.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 15 and 31 are allowable.

Claims 8, 10, 13, 14, 24, 26, 29, 30 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,896,176 (Das) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,496,607 (Krishnamurthy), Claims 9 and 25 were rejected under § 103(a) over Das in view of Krishnamurthy and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,523,850 (Kanda), Claims 11 and 27 were rejected under § 103(a) over Das in view of Krishnamurthy and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,025,879 (Yoneyama), and Claims 12, 16, 28 and 32 were rejected under § 103(a) over Das in view of Krishnamurthy and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,263,022 (Chen).

Without conceding the correctness of the foregoing rejections, Claims 8, 13, 14, 24, 29, 30 and 34 have nonetheless been cancelled, while the remaining claims have been amended for dependency only so as to be dependent upon one of allowed Claims 15 or 31. Additionally, Claim 35, which has been newly-added herein, is a computer-readable medium claim that substantially corresponds to Claims 15 and 31. In view of the foregoing, all claims now pending in the application are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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